SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Sir, Tamil Nadu people were given as assurance by the then Prime Minister. Sir, he has not followed my question. He has not understood it....

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:*

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Sir, the Minister has not understood the question of steel plant...

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:*

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY:*

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. Kindly remember, except the person who has been allowed to put a question or a supplementary, anything said by others will not go on record.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that per worker steel production in India is very much less compared to other countries of the world. Korea is producing one million tonnes with one lakh workers. India is not producing even one million tonnes with 17 lakh workers. What are you going to do for increasing per-worker production? Do you want to link the wage to productivity?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, the question before us is setting up of a steel plant near Bombay. Now the question which are put to me are very important questions, but off the cuff I cannot give answers. These are questions to be based on statistics. I can lay them on the Table or send them to the hon. Members later. I am not prepared with that particular type of question, but it is a fact that the cost of production of steel is higher in the country than in other countries of the world. It is our continuous effort to see that cost of production is taken down and we will continue that process.

*Not recorded.

*167. [*The questions (Shri Ram Jethmalani and Dr. Jinendra Kumar Jain) were absent, For answer vide re...32—35 infra*]

SOS to UN on bonded labour

*168. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:†
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governmnet's attention has been drawn to the report under caption "SOS to UN on bonded labour", which appeared in the Times of India dated August 5, 1991, to the effect that the Bandhua Mukti Morcha have approached the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva about the conditions and population of bonded labour in India;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. The Press Report purports to submissions made by the representative of the Bandhua Mukti Morcha before the United Nations Human Rights Commission on varied issues relating to the problems of bonded labour in the country. It has been stated *inter alia* that despite assurances a Commission on bonded labour had yet to be set-up; no violator of the case has been subject to punishment in Jail; the number of persons actually in bondage especially children is indeterminate and that child labour was rampant in carpet making.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bekal Utsahi.

2. The proposal for constituting National Commission on Bonded Labour is being examined in the background of the recommendations made recently by the National Commission on Rural Labour. Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, conviction in more than 800 cases have been obtained since the inception of the Act and a fine of more than Rs. 6 lakhs recovered for contravention of the provisions of the Act. So far a total of above 2.55 lakhs bended labourers have been identified out of which above 2.22 lakhs have been rehabilitated.

3. Instances have come to notice where children below 14 years of age from Bihar were found working on carpet weaving looms in the adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh. Apart from the fact that working of children below the age of 14 years in carpet weaving is legally prohibited, it was noted that in some cases such children suffered from exploitative conditions at the hands of the employers. A writ petition on the subject is presently pending consideration before the Hon'ble Supreme Court through its Order dated August 1, 1991, has appointed a fact-finding committee of three advocates for the purpose of ascertaining the particulars of bonded children in the carpet manufacturing area of Mirzapur and the concerned belt of Palamau and have directed the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as well as Collectors of Mirzapur (Uttar Pradesh) and Palamau (Bihar) for giving the requisite support to the Committee for its work. Separate figures for Child Bonded Labour is not available.

श्री बेकल "उत्साही": सभापति महोदय यह बड़ी चिंता का विषय है कि भारत में बंधुआ मजदूरों की आबादी में मुसल्सल इजाफा हो रहा है और इस मामले को एक स्वयं सेवी संस्था--भारतीय मुक्ति मोर्चा को जेनेवा में ह्यूमन राईट्स कमीशन के आगे ले जाना पड़ा है । मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि ह्यूमन राईट्स कमीशन ने भारत सरकार से इस बारे में कोई पत्राचार किया है, खतो-किताबत की है अगर किया है तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और भारत सरकार कमीशन के हस्तक्षेप को अपने अंदरूनी मामलों में दखलंदाजी मानती है ।

†[شری بیکل (اتساہی): ادھ کھلی مہودے یہ بڑے جلتا کا وشے ہے کہ بھارت میں بند ہوا مزدوروں کی آبادی میں مسلسل اضافہ ہو رہا ہے - اور اس معاملے کو سویم سیوی سنستھا - بھارتیہ مکتی مورچہ کو جینیوا میں ہیومن رائٹس کمیشن کے آگے لے جانا پڑا ہے - میں جاننا چاہونگا کہ ہیومن رائٹس کمیشن نے بھارت سرکار سے اس بارے میں کوئی پتراچار کیا ہے - خط و کتابت کی ہے اگر کیا ہے تو اسکا بیورا کیا ہے اور بھارت سرکار کمیشن کے ہستکشیپ کو اپنے اندرونی معاملوں میں دخل اندازی مانتی ہے -]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

1985 में पंजीकृत विधवाओं को मकानों का आवंटन

*162. श्रीमती कैलाशपति :
श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :

क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने बेघर लोगों को मकान उपलब्ध करवाने के लिये 1987 में एक स्कीम

†[Transliteration is Arabic Script.]